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the world and the most aggravating. She
as she is, and that's all there is to
about it. The only man who un-
stands that he don't understand her
has got sense enough to let it go at all.

THE OUTCROP.

Published Every Thursday in the heart of a Wonderfully Rich Mineral and Agricultural District.

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W. P. EVANS,

Publisher and Proprietor.

WILMER, B.C., THURSDAY, DEC. 11, 1902.

"What this country wants is not imperialism, but Canadianism," says the Canadian Magazine.

The Dominion Government fruit inspector states that British Columbia fruit trees are now healthier than those of any other province, being utterly free from any of the serious diseases that are devastating parts of the eastern provinces and the United States. Therefore, it will only be safe to buy B. C. trees for planting next spring.

The changes made in the Legislature effects this riding but little. Our worthy member occupies the same position as in the old cabinet and it must be pleasing to the electors of this riding to know that their choice of a member has resulted in a benefit to the whole province, and that Hon. W. C. Wells is filling the position of chief commissioner with ability and general satisfaction. Premier Prior has now an opportunity to show himself as a worthy leader and being a mining man we hope he will be able to legislate in favor of the mining industry and bring prosperity to British Columbia.

W. A. Gallihier, Kootenay's M.P., has shown himself to be no mean politician and has now got a hold on the mine-owners that does not leave them room to even wiggle, and that will be hard on some of them. Mr. Gallihier asked the mine-owners to meet and tell him just what they did want in the way of legislation. They held one session at Sandon and another at Nelson with the result that they asked for only two favors, both of which are right in the line of politics that Mr. Gallihier carries and which he can get without a great deal of trouble.

The miners asked that the duty on mining supplies or machinery which are not manufactured in Canada be abolished and that the tariff on lead imports be increased.

At the Sandon meeting the two newspaper reporters who showed up were fired out, so that the report of the meeting properly is unknown. The miners cannot be very much blamed as they then did not know what they wanted and the Paystreak's convict reporter showed up—don't you savvy, Billy? First time a road is needed they'll call you.

At Nelson the meeting was public and these two items were asked for, although East Kootenay miners were not represented, which was their privilege.

According to some reports the meetings were stormy and not fully representative, but that does not alter the situation as it was the miners opportunity and what they have resolved must be accepted as their very best decision as to what will most aid silver-lead mining.

If Mr. Gallihier succeeds in getting these two concessions for them then he will have done all they ask.

The abolition of duty on supplies and machinery as far as it goes is a good thing, but it might go further, especially as the manufacturers are seeking more protection just now.

To increase the tariff on lead imports may also be a good thing if a market can be got for our surplus lead. It would have the effect of increasing the demand for lead in Canada to a considerable extent, but even that increase reckoned at its highest possible figures, will not absorb anything like one-half the amount of lead the Kootenay mines can produce. Then other markets must be sought. And why cannot we find a market just as well as our friends across the line, who have been doing it for us all these years? We can if we will!

To increase the imports on lead means much to Canada if it is properly carried out. A very interesting picture might be drawn of the erection and operation of lead refineries, paint and pipe works and other enterprises which go in connection with lead mining. And sooner or later such a picture must be in actual existence and now is a good time to start it. But let it be a Government business all through.

It is stated that some of the Shoran miners do not manifest any interest in the increase of the tariff, this may be accounted for by the fact that their ore carries zinc and of late they ship it across the line where zinc brings good returns.

The miners did not ask for a lead bounty, no doubt for the reason that they thought the smelters and railways would reap the benefit and not themselves.

HARRY W. EDWARDS.
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